



CENTER FOR DONATION & TRANSPLANT
NEW YORK – VERMONT

Donation Myth Busters

Medical professionals do everything they can to save a patient, regardless of whether the patient is a registered donor. Health care providers that work to save patients' lives do not have access to the confidential donor registry. Donation is only considered an option after every attempt to save a life has failed.

There is no age limit for organ donation. There are very few medical rule-outs for organ donation. If you would like to be a donor, enroll in your state's donor registry regardless of your health or medical background. All potential candidates for donation are carefully evaluated to make sure it is safe for them to donate.

There is never any cost to the donor's family for organ or tissue donation. All medical and surgical costs associated with organ donation are covered by Medicare or the organ procurement organization.

All major religions support donation as an act of charity and love, or leave it to the individual to make the decision that is right for him or her.

Organs and tissues cannot be sold in the United States. The National Organ Transplant Act of 1984 forbid the buying and selling of human organs. The donation process is strictly regulated by several federal entities as well as the United Network for Organ Sharing, which oversees organ donation and transplantation.

If you are a registered donor (enrolled in New York or Vermont's donor registries or have a signed document stating your decision to donate), your family cannot override your decision. CDT works closely with donor families to support them through the donation process, and is committed to upholding the decision the individual has made to become a donor. It is helpful to share your decision regarding donation with your family so they know your wishes.

To join the NYS Donate Life Organ and Tissue registry you can register online at www.donatelifecd.org. To join the Donate Life VT Registry visit www.donatelifevermont.org.

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